Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1.-38. (Cancelled).

39. (New) A brake pad assembly comprising a brake pad and a guide spring for engagement with the brake pad, the brake pad including a main portion and a lateral guiding portion extending from the main portion, the lateral guiding portion including a stop surface and a radial extension, the guide spring comprising an end portion for engagement with the stop surface, the guide spring further comprising a guiding channel having a depth for receiving the radial extension.

40. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 39, wherein the guide spring comprises a cantilevered spring arm that terminates tangentially inwardly over the guiding channel.

41. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 40, wherein the spring arm comprises a pair of V-shaped hinge portions separated by an opening and a central ramp portion extending between the V-shaped hinge portions, the central ramp portion forming a sliding surface that bends radially toward the guiding channel to allow the lateral guiding portion to slide radially over the ramped surface and into the guiding channel.

42. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 39, wherein the end portion of the guide spring comprises a contoured edge for engagement with the stop surface.

43. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 42, wherein the contoured edge comprises a convex edge.

44. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 42, wherein the contoured edge comprises an angled-off edge.

45. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 39, wherein the end portion of the guide spring comprises an axial spring force component.

46. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 45, wherein the axial spring force component comprises a sloped edge along the end portion, the sloped edge being sloped in the axial direction.

47. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 39, wherein the guide spring comprises an elongated base having a first end and a second end, and wherein the guide channel comprises a first guide channel section extending from the first end of the base for receiving the brake pad, and a second guide channel section on the second end of the base, the second guide channel section being separated from the first guide channel section by an opening.

48. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 47, wherein the spring arm extends over the first guide channel section but not the second guide channel section.

49. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 39 further comprising a contact surface adjacent the guide channel, wherein a section of the contact surface is partially cut to form a flexible fixing clamp.

50. (New) A brake pad assembly comprising a brake pad and a guide spring for engagement with the brake pad, the brake pad including a main portion and a lateral guiding portion extending from the main portion, the lateral guiding portion including a radial extension having three sides, and the guide spring comprising a guiding channel having a depth for receiving the radial extension and surrounding the three sides of the radial extension.

51. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 50, wherein the guide spring comprises a cantilevered spring arm that terminates tangentially inwardly over the guiding channel.

52. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 51, wherein the spring arm comprises a pair of V-shaped hinge portions separated by an opening and a ramp portion extending between the V-shaped hinge portions.

53. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 50, wherein the lateral guiding portion comprises a stop surface, and the guide spring comprises a contoured edge for engagement with the stop surface.

54. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 50, wherein the end portion of the guide spring comprises an axial spring force component.

55. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 54, wherein the axial spring force component comprises a sloped edge along the end portion, the sloped edge being sloped in the axial direction.

56. (New) A brake pad assembly comprising a brake pad and a guide spring detachably coupled to the brake pad, the brake pad including a main portion and a lateral guiding portion extending from the main portion, the lateral guiding portion including a stop surface and a radial hook, the radial hook having a contact surface, the guide spring comprising a contoured end portion exerting a radial component of spring force on the stop surface, the guide spring further comprising a guiding channel surrounding the radial hook on at least three sides, the radial hook slidably engaging the guiding channel and being displaceable within the guiding channel in an axial direction, the contoured end portion and guiding channel applying radial and tangential components of spring force against the radial hook to resist radial and tangential displacement of the radial hook in the guiding channel.

57. (New) The brake pad assembly of claim 56, wherein the guide spring comprises a cantilevered spring arm that terminates tangentially inwardly over the guiding channel.